



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**Public Health**

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June 27, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. *Jonathan E. Fielding MD*  
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **HEAT EMERGENCY**

This letter is regarding the Heat Emergency issued today as we anticipate the forecasted triple-digit temperatures for the Santa Clarita and the Antelope Valleys beginning tomorrow through Monday, July 1, 2013.

As you know, public health consequences of high temperatures can result in heat-related illnesses including dehydration and heat stroke. Also, heat may worsen the effects of poor air quality in areas of heavy smog. When measuring temperatures and anticipating potential health consequences, the Department of Public Health uses the measure of Heat Index (devised by the National Weather Service), which accounts for relative humidity.

The Department of Public Health is promoting the use of cooling centers through press releases and on its website at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/docs/CoolingCtrs-6-3-13.pdf>.

In light of this week's anticipated high temperatures, I believe it is necessary to extend the hours of operation for the cooling centers in order to protect the health of the public in the affected areas. In order to support the extended hours I also request funding be made available to support the necessary staffing requirements.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:ia

C: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors